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peoples which in Europe and Asia are threatening each other with cries for revenge — can be induced to work together side by side in peace and union of interests when placed beyond the range of their warlike rulers.

Who but the mercantile traveler is to be credited with the advent of this joyful change in human sentiment? Has he not furnished the basis, in the shape of a peaceful international business interchange, on which the arts and the sciences have reared the civilization and culture of our time? All the art and science in the world, all the accumulated stores of wisdom and collected experience of the ages, could never have accomplished this work, and without the fructifying medium of trade mankind would never have made a forward stride of progress. Only the inborn human desire for peaceful and lucrative exchange of products, only the strong pinions of international commerce, were capable of carrying primeval man into the broad daylight of the present. It was not our great men of science or learning who were chosen to perform this perhaps the greatest of the undertakings of our century, but it was such totally unknown fellows as James This, Pierre That and Fritz, Juan, Dimitri, Jonathan, or whatever names we may select to represent the great trading nations. In other words, it was a rôle so complex and so manifold in all its vast importance that Providence seems to have been unwilling to trust any one individual or any one nation with the task of carrying it out, and therefore it was parceled out in the shape of practical problems and enterprises for the millions of mercantile travelers, who have civilized the present century. They have altered the world from being formerly an international scene of warfare and a pleasure park for the privileged classes, into a really habitable earth for people of all classes to live on under conditions which are gradually being improved and more equally distributed with each generation. That the standing armies and the practical manifestations of militarism have strongly increased together with the development of mercantile interests is as nothing compared with the fact that the armies of to-day in reality only exist as a safeguard for the national trade interests, the mercantile instinct of self-preservation and protection. When the great powers endeavor to extend their domains in Asia and Africa, it is more for the purpose of acquiring new markets for their export trade than from a desire for conquest. The political business, which we still persist in misnaming "international diplomacy," is getting to partake refreshingly of the nature of the commercial policy of the nations, especially when we compare it with the sort of diplomacy that was the pride of the eighteenth century. We now confer "diplomatically" about tariffs and trade treaties, customs reciprocity, postal laws, treaties of export and import trade, etc. Briefly we urge "diplomatically" a number of international questions, which almost invariably take final shape as questions of trade, no matter in what disguise they may be brought upon the stage of diplomacy.

During the International Commercial Congress in Philadelphia we were afforded the most conclusive and radical proof that the predominating mercantile tendency of our time is not only a matter of figures and statistics, but, moreover, a matter of awakened conscience with the nations of the earth.

To be a traveling salesman has never been considered a very great honor, and why? No doubt because the honor of civilizing the nations was parceled out by Providence among the travelers in such a multiplicity of "job lots" that no single man has been able to monopolize the honor. The farmer and the manufacturer do not bother their heads much about these things, the consumers still less, perhaps; these people only occupy themselves with supplying and shaping and marketing the products for which the traveler creates a demand. The traveler himself can hardly be said to understand his true position as a social factor. He does not stop to consider that were it not for his sensible, courteous, confiding manner of doing business, the nations would not have drawn as close together as they now are, nor would the international bonds of friendship exist which now preserve the peace essential to progress.

Whether our friend, the traveler, introduces fly paper into Palestine, wind mills into the Argentine, machinery into China, or whether he exports agricultural products and machines to distant regions in South America, or promotes the establishment of railroads or manufactures in India and Japan, or whether he capitalizes wool spinning mills in Persia or tea plantation syndicates in Paraguay, he remains the same indefatigable pioneer and pathfinder of civilization, the entering wedge of international commerce, providing and maintaining the impregnable, economic basis, which supports that palace of the arts and the sciences, and the supreme human spirit, known as culture.

### Christian Heroism in South Africa.

J. W. Leeds writes thus to the Philadelphia *Public Ledger*:

"When Lord Roberts left London the other day for the seat of war in South Africa, the parting refrain of the Prince of Wales and the others of the distinguished group assembled at the railway station was, 'Good luck to you!' Now, it is not with words such as these that the missionaries of the Cross or any who leave their native shores under the Lord's directing hand are wont to part with their fellows. It is not good luck, but God's love, that is the lodestar of their long journey.

"When David Moffatt, the Scotch stripling from Fife-shire, along the Firth of Forth, left his native heath, upwards of eighty years ago, for the Cape of Good Hope, and, pushing northward over mountain and veldt beyond the Orange river into Great Namaqualand, went straight to the kraal of the dreaded murderer and marauder, Afrikaner, he showed a degree of intrepidity that not a man of the historic Gordon Highlanders or of the Black Watch, so eloquently descanted upon of late by the *Ledger's* contributor, M. E. L. A., could have excelled. And what a trophy was here! 'Wolfish rapacity, leonine ferocity, leopardish treachery,' we are told, 'gave way before the meekness and mildness of the lamb or kid.' So that when Moffatt's life hung in the balance with African fever, the theretofore cruel Namaqua chieftain nursed him most tenderly through the crisis of delirium. When he was obliged to visit Cape Town, Afrikaner went with him, knowing that a price had been set for years upon his own head as an outlaw and a public

enemy. 'No marvel,' to quote from a graphic account of the incident, 'that when he made his appearance in Cape Colony the people were astonished at the transformation. It was more wonderful than when Saul, the archpersecutor, was suddenly transformed into Paul the apostle. The whole road, a distance of six hundred miles, lay through a country which had been laid waste by this robber chief and his retainers. The Dutch farmers could not believe that this converted man was actually Afrikaner, and one of them lifted his hands when he saw him and exclaimed: 'This is the eighth miracle of the world! Great God, what a miracle of thy power and grace!' There was no drawing back from the ranks of the Master with whom he had enlisted to serve, and it is recorded as a curious coincidence that the reward of £100 which had once been offered for his head as an outlaw was eventually laid out by the government in offerings of goodwill to be bestowed upon himself. But Moffatt went eastward into the land of the Bechuanas, and at Kuruman (the same Kuruman that to-day's paper relates has been the scene of bloody conflict between Briton and Boer) labored forty years to bring the benighted natives to a knowledge of our civilization and the religion of the Prince of Peace."

### Professional Militarism.

BY PROFESSOR HAMON.

One of the secondary causes of war is militarism. In order to have wars, there must be professional soldiers. Whenever and wherever professional military men exist, war must necessarily exist too. The effect reacts on the primary cause, and becomes itself a cause. Militarism engenders war because professional military men desire it most ardently to take place. They want it, and stand in need of it. There is a general saying that the soldier, the professional military man, takes up soldiering from love of his country. This notion is a very false one. The military profession is a trade — a calling, followed like any other. It is followed, like all trades or employments, simply and solely for individual ends, in a purely selfish interest, that of the individual engaged in it. The military profession brings to those who follow it certain drawbacks and certain advantages, as is the case in all professions. Every professional military man becomes a soldier, not from patriotism or love of his country, but simply in order that he may succeed in the career that he has embraced, and acquire riches, honor and glory; in a word, from personal interests. The end in view is the same to all men — for the scientist, the literary man, grocer, engineer, merchant, or soldier. The only difference consists in the means adopted for arriving at this same end. They vary according to the calling. The end sought after by each professional soldier is simply the material benefit of the individual. The private correspondence of officers allows this to be, more or less, clearly seen. We have brought up thousands of examples of this in our works, and it would be easy to find numerous others to quote from, by pursuing our researches amongst letters, books and memoirs. Besides, is it not the custom in England to give very large rewards to victorious generals? and did not Napoleon I. follow the same custom?

Listen to the comments made by young English officers to-day. What makes them so keen to go to South Africa? What makes those left behind so sad? Is it not the desire for promotion, to which active service leads quickly? All this shows clearly that it is mainly solicitude for the advancement and success of purely individual and selfish interest that inspires the professional soldier in the exercise of his duty, and not any care for the glory and greatness of his country. In form of analysis one falls back still on economic causes, and it may well be that, if one analyzed still further, one would find, simply and purely, physiological causes. Man, in fact, acts so as to procure the satisfaction of his wants, and these wants are the effects of his organs. In this century militarism has perfected its organization; it has got hold of a greater number of individuals than before, and, on this head, it seems to have developed greatly. Every phenomenon acts on the individuals who undergo it or are conscious of it or have knowledge of it, and this action is all the greater to each individual the more this phenomenon is repeated, the greater the number of human beings it acts upon. It therefore follows that the military profession influences those who follow it, either temporarily or permanently. This influence produces in those who follow a military calling permanently — that is to say, in military professionals — moral and intellectual effects peculiar to, and specific of, this calling. The professional soldier is affected with a state of moral anæstheticism and of profound infatuation; his morality is defaced, and analogous in many points to that of savages. Passive obedience destroys his individuality, breaks it down, and turns him into a mere automaton. He is servile to his superiors and, by a natural reaction, arrogant to his subordinates. The army is the school of crime.— *From the Humanitarian (London).*

### Lincoln's Criticism of the Mexican War.

In a recent speech in the House of Representatives, Congressman Ball of Texas cited the following passage from a speech by Abraham Lincoln in Congress in criticism of the war with Mexico, as an answer to those who persist in calling all opponents of President McKinley's Philippine proceedings "traitors":

"Mr. Chairman, some, if not all, of the gentlemen on the other side of the House, who have addressed the committee within the last two days, have spoken complainingly of the vote given a week or ten days ago, declaring that the war with Mexico was unnecessary and unconstitutional commenced by the president. I admit that such a vote should not be given in mere party wantonness, and is justly censurable if it have no other or better foundation.

"Now, sir, for the purpose of obtaining the very best evidence as to whether Texas had actually carried her revolution to the place where the hostilities of the present war commenced, let the president answer. The interrogatories I proposed, or some other similar ones, let him answer fully, fairly and candidly. Let him answer with facts, and not with argument. Let him remember he sits where Washington sat; and so remembering, let him answer as Washington would answer.